1		2	
2.	U.P. Primary Education	30.09.00	181.94
3.	U.P. Urban Development	31.03.96	120.90
4.	UP Rural Water Supply & Sanitation	31.05.02	59.60
	West Bengal		
1.	W.B. Forestry	30.09.97	37.08
	Multistates		
1.	Shrimp & Fish culture (AP, Bihar, Orissa, UP & WB)	30.06.99	62.58
2.	Integrated Watershed Development (Plains) (Guj, Orissa & Rjasthan)	31.03.98	65.18
3.	Integrated Watershed Development (Hills) (HP, J&K, Punjab & Haryana)	30.06.97	86.23
4.	IInd National Highway (Haryana, Orissa, Punjab & TN)	30.06.96	181.64
5.	States Road Project (Bihar, Maharashtra, UP & Rajasthan)	30.06.95	108.59
6.	Dam Safety Project (MP, TN, Orissa & Rajsthan)	30.09.97	148.88
7.	Tech. Education-II (AP, HP, WB, TN, Assam, Haryana, Maharashtra & Punjab)	30.06.99	274.33
8.	Technician Education-I (MP, UP, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, Orissa, Karnataka & Rajasthan)	30.06.98	239.49
9.	National Sericulture (AP, J&K, Karnataka, TN and WB)	31.12.96	147.88
10.	Agriculture Human Resources Development (AP, Haryana, TN & ICAR)	31.12.00	59.50
11.	National Hydrology	31.03.02	142.00
12.	State Health Systems II (Punjab, WB & Karnataka)	31.03.02	350.00

Problem of Tobacco Growers in Andhra Pradesh and Krnataka

3182. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from tobacco growers of Ahdnra Pradesh and Karnataka who are facing problems due to the huge accumulated surplus production with them;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to help the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some of the issues raised by the Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka Tobacco Farmers Federation in their representation are regarding enhancement of export quota to Russia under the debt repayment, creation of a 'Price Stability Fund' for price support operation, enhancement of credit to tobacco purchases to enable them to buy

voluminous produce in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, opening of additional platform in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka and for assistance in modernisation of curing practices in barns.

(c) The Tobacco Board has reported that the estimated production of tobacco in Andhra Pradesh is 132-50 Million Kgs. against an authorised crop of 83.08 Million Kgs. and in Karnataka the estimated production has been 36.00 Million Kgs. and the authorised crop has been 29.50 Million Kgs. The average prices; fetched by the tobacco farmers in 1996-97 as on 4th March, 1997 have been Rs. 53.71 per Kg. and Rs. 38.43 per Kg. in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh auctions respectively, and these are much higher than the Minimum Guaranteed Price (MGP) agreed to by the traders of the respective States. Some of the steps taken to help the tobacco farmers are:-

(i) Opening of 3 additional auction platform in Andhra Pradesh to facilitate the growers to sell their produce early.

(ii) Persuading the Indian Tobacco Association, Exporters, manufacturers and other Traders to participate actively in the auctions to absorb the tobacco corp produced.

(iii) Negotiating with tobacco trade to declare a Minimum Guarantee price (MGP) for tobacco purchase which is higher than the Minimum Support Price (MSP) announced by the Government.

(iv) Assisting the tobacco trade in obtaining larger quantum of credit from the financial institutions for making purchases of tobacco.

(v) Participating in trade fairs and exhibitions abroad and arranging buyer-seller meet to enhance tobacco exports.

(vi) Providing financial assistance for energy saving roof insulation of barn.

(vii) Supplying tarpaulines for protection of cured tobacco

Production of Tea in Unauthorised Tea Gardens of West Bengal

3183. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that inferior quality of tea being produced in a number of unauthorised tea gardens of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check on the quality of tea being produced by these unauthorised tea gardens so that the name of our country is not defamed in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No complaint relating to production of inferior quality tea in unauthorised tea estates in West Bengal has been received by the Tea Board.

(b) Does not arise.

District Poverty initiative Project

3184 : SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the District Poverty Initiative Project is being launched in some districts of the selective States :

(b) whether the World Bank has identified such districts for providing loan to implement the programmes;

(c) if so, the basis on which those districts have been selected either by the Central Government or the World Bank, State-wise; and

(d) the reasons for not selecting any district from Orissa for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. District Poverty Initiatives Project with possible World Bank assistance is in its initial stage of preparation in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal. The project aims to alleviate poverty and create conditions for sustainable development and building local institutional capacity for the benefit of the SC, ST and tribal population of the selected districts. The basis for the selection of districts by the State Governments was poverty and social development criteria and the presence of functioning groups to facilitate project implementation in the districts.

(d) No such proposal was received from the Government of Orissa.

[Translation]

Export of Carpets

3185 : SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned from the exports of cotton and woollen carpets separately during 1994-95 and 1995-96 alongwith the countries to which these carpets were exported;

(b) whether the raw material was imported for weaving carpets during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of carpets for the welfare of carpet weavers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) The foreign exchange earned from the exports of cotton and woollen carpet during 1994-95 and 1995-96 is as under: